BETWEEN THE EYES

BYALBERT PAYSON **TERHUNE**

HE big auditorium, shaped like the lower half of a flareedged peach basket, was
packed with men. The Merle Renton crawled back to conwith

made his bald head shine like a ness, while his seconds lifted him and halo. He was "Honest" Tim Constantin, and he was refereeing one of the most spectacular and best ad-Club had staged for a year.

The ring's two other occupants were Spike Kennelly and Merle

Stripped to trunks and socks and canvas shoes, they faced each other, panting through set teeth, their faces engorged and blood-smeared, their hairy chests and white torso sides spattered with reddish-blue blothches where bruising blows had landed.

It was Merle Renton's fight. The wise ones had seen that from the end of the first round, in spite of Merle. Kennelly's savage work. And they had seen it increasingly in every one of the six rounds that had fol-

Kennelly was a born fighter, crafty, ferocious, apelike in his dy-namic strength. But Renton was seeingly past Brace. For a moment, besting him. Steadily, with no gallost motion. Merle had tackled his his taller and showler opponent.

For the most part the crowd was For Merle Renton, welterpopular. Every fight fan knew him

From the antipodes had come Spike Kennelly, New Zealand's welterweight the eyes. And it put my sight out of champion. Across the continent he had fought his way, from the west traveling east, winning victory after victory-sometimes in a way that did not add to his popularity or to last he had challenged Merle Renton. in town! I'm-"

NOBODY in the Cestus arena that Zealander's unbroken line of victories was in danger, just then, of an occasional ringside hiss.

The men came up for the eighthround. Merle advanced to the cen-

As they clinched, Spike brought up Meagher." Spike brought down his heel with of his 140-odd pounds on Merle's

The instep is one of the body's most cogent nerve centers. The stamp of Kennelly's heel, for all its soft rubber sheathing, sent a torrent of anabead of you." suggested Brace, nerhis five-years experience as a fighter, "No," refused Merle. "Linda don't Merle "hung on" in the clinch—hung belong to the snivelly based that has

"Now, then, boys!" the referee was wise she will. And she'll help me." intoning, "Break clean, here! Act

At once, Kennelly was at Renton, like a raging tiger. As he charged, phoned as they left the clubhouse.

De aimed a mighty left swing for the Linda did not scream or have hyperselection.

threw up his guard, at the same time erking his head to one side and step-

But, thanks to parred nerves and dazed brain, the move was too slow. His tortured foot would not carry him away soon enough. Nor did his glove fly up in time to block the blow. Over Merle's guard flashed the

thunderbolt fist crashed forehead, just above the evebrow its impact sent him to the floor. It

would have felled a heavyweight.
Instantly, Merle Renton gather his feet under him. Before the referee had reached the count of two, he was on his feet and ready for the fray.

But, even as he scrambled up Merle was aware that the fuses—in pitch darkness. Merle frowned vexedly. .It was

grope his way to his own corner. Why didn't one of his seconds light

match to guide him? The crowd was still yelling and heering and shouting encourage ment; just as though the place was not in pitch darkness.

Then, in sick horror, Merle under stood. It was not the light, but his sight was gone! To the spectators at large, the only

thing apparent was that Merle Ren-ton had gotten to his feet and that he was apparently dizzy or confused by the force of the knockdown.

Spike Kennelly, with his remaining as he bored in at his stumbling grop view of the staring and sightfess eyes

As a lad, back in New Zealand Spike had spent a year as handy ma in an asylum for the blind. Nobody with such experience could misread ne blank look. And, im mediately. Spike knew what had be

failen his foe. HE championship was his! But he over the nature of Renton's mishap and stop the bout. Scarce a sec had passed since Kennelly had seen and recognized that sightless glare. Scarce three seconds had passsince Merle had risen so wavering-

by to his feet. There was no time Setting himself, deliberately, Spike Connelly struck with all his trained skill and with every atom of his force

Down went Merie Renton, face for-

September night was sickeningly hot sciousness. His head was racked and In the exact center of the place was a raised platform, a twenty-mind was as blank as were his shut was a raised platform, a twenty-four-foot squared ring. Above this beat down a score of glaring elec-tric lights bringing out into sharp Constantin's voice chanting: "TEN!" In a rush, memory came back to relief three human figures.

Of this trio one was a sweating Merle. For the first time in his clean and red-faced man in shirt sleeves ring career, he shammed. He conand baggy trousers. The arc lights tinued to lie, in seeming unconscious-

The arena was rocking with the vertised fights the Cestus Athletic plaudits of the crowd. It had been a good fight, with a charmingly unexpected twist at the end and a sensational knockout.

Presently, Merle heard Brace, his manager, tell the seconds to carry him to his dressing room. As he was laid on the table, Merle whispered his manager's name. Instantly Brace

"You're all right, now, old man!" Brace said cheerily. "Don't try to get "Send all the others out!" panted

Wondering, Brace obeyed. "They're all gone," he reported. coming back to the table. "What did you want to say to me?"

For answer, Merle Renton opened the manager stared bewildered, into lory plays and with no atom of the blank orbs. Then he cried out, as in physical pain.

"No!" he yelled. "No! Good Heaven. man! It can't be you're-

"I'm blind," Renton made simple reply. 'T'm blind. He heeled me in the instep, in that last clinch. I was too sick to block his swing, as we came out of it. He got me between business. Then he knocked me out."
"The filthy swine!" roared Brace, half blubbering. "I'll murder him Wait! I'm going to send for the best song.

night knew better than did back here! You'll stay where you not share. sudden curtailment. Ruse after ruse in every paper tomorrow. I never yet cles lost their spasmodic rigidity. Squady: And it took a woman to to be the tried—ruses which earned him squealed or made excuses. And I'm not going to begin now, I—"

whole story get around town and be cles lost their spasmodic rigidity. Squady: And it took a woman to the squealed or made excuses. And I'm not going to begin now, I—"

whole story get around town and be cles lost their spasmodic rigidity. Squady: And it took a woman to think of it! It—"

A return match with a most going to begin now, I—"

whole story get around town and be cles lost their spasmodic rigidity. Squady: And it took a woman to the squade of th not going to begin now. I---"But. man---!"

"Get me home!" ordered Renton; jabs which culminated almost in-stantly in a clinch. and away from the bunch. Then it'll street outside.

antagonist on the forehead. The sullen resolve In the cab, on the way and from the exhaustion of the even 'em back, I'm not letting any one else geraniums. pay it for me. I-I kind of hate to

guish surging through Renton's ahead of you," suggested Brace, ner-whole body. For the first time in vously, "and break it to the wife---" on despairingly, lest he topple to the to have rotten news 'broke' to 'em. If I can stand this, she can. And like

from this way to squeal to the referee.

The state way are telling you!

The rest of the drive was made in one object after another in the from the steps of the drive was made in one object after another in the fill answer for Merie. The more he like woman accessed him. Spike smiled thinks of it, the more he'll know I'm woman accessed him. Spike smiled thinks of it, the more he'll know I'm woman accessed him. Spike smiled thinks of it, the more he'll know I'm woman accessed him. Spike smiled thinks of it, the more he'll know I'm woman accessed him. Spike smiled thinks of it, the more he'll know I'm woman accessed him. Spike smiled thinks of it, the more he'll know I'm woman accessed him. Spike smiled thinks of it, the more he'll know I'm woman accessed him. Spike smiled thinks of it, the more he'll know I'm woman accessed him. Spike smiled thinks of it, the more he'll know I'm woman accessed him. Spike smiled thinks of it, the more he'll know I'm woman accessed him. Spike smiled thinks of it, the more he'll know I'm woman accessed him. Spike smiled thinks of it, the more he'll know I'm woman accessed him. Spike smiled thinks of it, the more he'll know I'm woman accessed him. Spike smiled thinks of it, the more he'll know I'm woman accessed him. Spike smiled thinks of it, the more he'll know I'm woman accessed him. Spike smiled thinks of it, the more he'll know I'm woman accessed him. Spike smiled thinks of it, the more he'll know I'm woman accessed him. Spike smiled thinks of it, the more he'll know I'm woman accessed him. Spike smiled thinks of it, the more he'll know I'm woman accessed him. Spike smiled thinks of it, the more he'll know I'm woman accessed him. Spike smiled thinks of it, the more he'll know I'm woman accessed him. Spike smiled thinks of it, the more he'll know I'm woman accessed him. Spike smiled thinks of it, the more he'll know I'm woman accessed him. Spike smiled thinks of it, the more he'll know I'm woman accessed him. Spike smiled thinks of it, the more he'll know I'm woman accessed him. a doctor for whom Brace had tele- Linda's sewing table.

Linda did not scream or have hys-Linda did not scream or have hys-terics. She took Merle's groping on his knee. At the same moment, Linda woke. She sat up, wide-eyed Merie saw the swing coming. He hands in her own firm grasp, as Rendering works and wondering. Then memory rushed into her big eyes, clouding them serking his head to one side and stepably following, she led him into the right, girl. It didn't happen. Or if it house and up to the little flat that did it's gone."

> made every possible examination un- utes she proceeded to go to pieces. der the circumstances and had de parted, promising to call early in the Merle's comforting arms and recover acquaintance-it was not until Brace arrived at the flat; the specialist with had wrung Merle's hand and Linda's him. and stamped away in Meagher's wake—it was not until she and her tests and cross-questions. The spe stricken husband were alone together in their living room that Linda ulous in the recovery.

her arms, she strained it close to her oourse of his own medical experience breast, murnuring love words of enthe building's electric light apparatus breast, murmuring love words of enburned out. The arena was in | couragement; crooning to the sufferer

let herself go.

as to a sick child. ing to do?"

"It's going to be all right, dearie," she soothed. "It's going to be all right. We got along when we were so dead broke. And we got on when -when baby died. We can get on, now. Because we're together. You've got my eyes to see with and my hands to work for you. And-and I'm prouder of you, for the way you're taking this, than if you won

every fight in a single punch. "What'd I ever do to have this wished on me?" Merle groaned. "I've played square. You know I have, girl. I've done what I could to be a white man. Sometimes I've fell short, but I've kept on trying. And now, what

"It isn't what you may or may not be getting, this minute, that counts," she broke in, tenderly. "You've been square. And you've always won a dare let myself get to hoping he'd way through everything that's been stacked against you. And, somehow or other, you're always going to. I don't know how. But you are. Nobody can play the life game as square must act before the referee should and as helpful as you play it with

> "I'm a big baby to whine," he broke out, almost flercely. "You're right the purse was going to pay for that We're going to face it together. We'll go through it, somehow or started all nice. But there wasn't

> He let his tense body relax, sinking back on the couch where Linda had seated him. She curled up on the floor at his side, her fingers roaming Brace. "Of course—" through the damp hair of his brow, Drawing a long breath; she began



SPIKE BROUGHT DOWN HIS HEEL WITH ALL HIS STRENGTH ON MERLE'S INSTEP.

Until gray dawn the woman continued her loving vigil. Then she, too, "get me home in a rush. Don't tell strain. Her head on Renton's knee, fell asleep, worn out by the night's Spike came out of his corner with a rush. The men crashed together in midring in a volley of short-arm steer me to the taxi. Get me home and as the city's point with a rush of the boys about it. Say I'm too she slept upon the floor beside the couch, as the dim light waxed clearer and as the city's point. See and the city's point waxed clearer and as the city's point waxed clearer and point waxed wax

s they clinched. Spike brought up Meagher."

MERLE RENTON awoke, stupidly, "It's dead square. I'm your manager. pages contained announcement that pages arm awkwardly as it to hit his Nor could Brace move him from his mind heavy from the drug And I say: Go to it:"

Merle had come home, apparently referee's eye followed the silly ma- to Renton's flat, Merie explained, "if ing before. Idly, through half-shut likeneuver as Kennelly had intended it ever I get my eyes back, I'll pay the lids, he watched the play of, morning

Then, half-consciously, he realized talk tonight. I guess I'd rather we he was on the couch and dressed, and

Surely that part of it had been some grotesque nightmare! For his "So that's settled," she finished servision was as clear as ever it had been. To test it, he focused his eyes ahead and make the arrangements?

Then, one day, as he was sallying forth for his usual afternoon prometry. The property for Marie Theorem.

His glance fell on the sun-kissed hair of the dainty head that rested

"Linda!" exclaimed Merlie. "It's all

was their home.

Long and amazedly, she peered at it was not until Dr. Meagher had him. Then, for five hysterical min-She was still snuggled close i morning with a great specialist of his ing from her cry, when Dr. Meaghe

> Followed much examining and many cialist seemed to find nothing mirac-

The same thing, he said in effect Then, gathering the blind head in had happened several times in the nerves were drawn taut by pain or strain, and whose blood-vessels wer "Oh, girl of mine!" Merle muttered engorged from violent exercise, might very annoying. He half-turned, to chokingly, "Girl, dear, what'm I go- manifest itself in any of a hundred ways. One of these ways was a temporary paralysis of the brain-cells governing sight.

The optic nerve had not been affected. There was no reason to expect any return of the blindness. After the two doctors had gone

husband and wife went together to the kitchen to prepare breakfast. While they ate, Brace appeared. When the triple gabbling had exhausted itself and Brace was tired of thumping Merle on the back and yelling incoherently affectionate in-sults at him, Linda said, quietly:

"Mr. Brace, you've been the boy's only manager since he went into the ring. But now you're going to have a partner and the partner's name is Linda Renton. I-I kept thinking of a wonderful scheme, last night, when I was trying to keep Merle asleep. It seemed impossible then; for I didn't ever be well. But-he is well. Want to hear it?"

scenting a joke. "No," she corrected him. "I'm in earnest. I want to go partners with out winning out at last. See if you Mr. Brace in managing your next where, it was hoped, his damaged don't!"

When to go partners with the whore, it was hoped, his damaged fight. We've been so sure of winning sight might in time be restored. last night's! And the winners end of hotel, back home, and for getting it delightful joke. Just then he was re- Kennelly, my husband has just chalany 'winner's end' to that purse for

"Fire away!" commanded Merle

wife. Can it be worked on, the way thing Kennelly desired.

I said?" she finished, anxiously.

comfortably. "It doesn't seem just of fighting or could rake in easy shaking all over.

Often when he came in very late at night he would camp on the couch be? One doesn't hit a friend with a few was pleased — except he began to remember.

He must have been out late. Where he was no squarest girl you to Kennelly, in Merle's name, for a don't know the Latin name for it."

"Hey?" exclaimed Spike, in sudden the easient of deliver. It can be landed as an opposite to the landed as an opposite to the easient of deliver. It can be landed as an opposite to the landed as an opposite to the easient of deliver. It can be landed as an opposite to the landed a

for this-if I go to the chair for it! her soft voice taking up a drowsy afresh. At first the men listened with to pump the surly manager as to Ren- dumbfounded Kennelly. "Why,it's him like mine, too! Oh, Merle, I did not add to his popularity or to Wait! I'm going to send for the best song.

amused tolerance. But, gradually, the ton's true condition. By dint of clever that won't leave me alone! Here he you to do all sorts of things to him, friendly derision died out of their cross-questioning, he elicited from goes and chailenges me, and—" in the ring! I—" in town: I'm—"

switched off the living room lights, faces. In Merle's dawned a wonder, the rejuctant Brace the news that "That's just it:" she cried, choking"Come back!" ordered Merle, glowering in his general direction, "Come

switched off the living room lights, faces. In Merle's dawned a wonder, the rejuctant Brace the news that "That's just it:" she cried, choking"I will," grimly promised Renton.

"He's put himself outside the whitethe wonder was augmented by pure carlous; and that it would be a insists on doing it. My only hope man line." delight. As she paused, the manager miracle if ever again he were able to was to come and throw myself on

wanted. Afterward, for a goodly may be making it up-for fun," she nelly'd have kept out of it, too. I had "I don't like it." objected Merle, un- while, he could either avoid the bother explained, choking back a sob and to. I didn't like doing it, any more money by means of "set-ups."

"But---"
old championship; least of all to
"So that's settled," she finished serformidable an opponent as Renton. Then, one day, as he was sallying blinded forever. I---

"He isn't scared of anybody," she "Not a woman," corrected Linda. "A Merle's prowess was the very last Kennelly, I've no right to tell my

fight, when the time comes. Just the world was happily interested in read-able to cure him. But that blow had

ne'd rob that man still further by a

"Mind you, I don't say that's a true crippling their adversaries. story," she added, tremblingly. "No-body can say I betray my husband's top of Merle's head with staggering "I'm sorry," he whispered into the secrets. Especially when I swore I'd force, any time he might choose to. never tell. But it can't do any harm Kennelly proceeded to increase his if a loan will help you, till you ge Well, if that man was going into a together every available dollar of his

in the ring! I—"
"I will," grimly promised Renton.

"Gee!" bleated Kennelly, thrilled to

side-bet. He'd trade on an appeal

Kennelly."

Fight's off."

ould argue the point too hotly.

more rapidly in quest of Brace.

ed; and had practically forced a stu-

than you liked having me do it!"

was a fairy story. And then he promised me to let me off. And, the A return match with a man of retorted. "That's the trouble, Mr. moment my back was turned-" husband's secrets. And I won't. So on the free list, either. Tomorrow With Renton out of the way, that I'm going to tell you just a fairy morning I start training. Only-I "Can it?" echoed the jubilant Brace. danger was past. Spike could have story; and you can believe it or not wish you'd kept out of it girl."
"Can it? Why, it's a bird! I wouldn't all the fun and all the loafing he as you like. For all you know, I "If I had," she countered, "If I had," she countered, "Ken-

"Why don't it?" challenged Brace.
It's dead square. I'm your manager.
It's dead square. I'm your manager.
I'm delta come home, apparently had come home, apparently had interviewed him declared his eyes like——"

"Listen to me," demanded Linda.

"Why don't it?" challenged Brace.

But, a month later, the sporting pages contained announcement that the sporting pages contained announcement that Merle had come home, apparently cured of his malady. Reporters who had interviewed him declared his eyes like——"

"Listen to me," demanded Linda.

"Finish the big stiff:"

Merle, unwearied, vibrant with endours and to the roof.

Spike Kennelly had a busy and had interviewed him declared his eyes like was a man," she continued, brokenly. "I don't say and to the roof.

Spike Kennelly had a busy and had interviewed him declared his eyes like was a man," she continued, brokenly. "I don't say and to the roof.

Spike Kennelly had a busy and happy five weeks. He had trained, it true but not in the grillingly drass."

Ward off the attack. Into his eyes had "Listen to me," demanded Linda. showed no visible sign of his late was a man. And he got into a fight. it true; but not in the grillingly drasas kennelly had intended it ever I get my eyes back, I'll pay the lids, he watched the play of morning showed no visible sign of his late was a man. And he got into a fight, it true; but not in the grillingly dras-ward on the attack. And, in the same instant, bill I owe Kennelly. If I don't get sunshine on the window box of red sunshine on the hands to you. Let me be brains for communicative about it.

And somehow, it made him blind, earlier fight-preparations.

You, now. All you've got to do is to In another three days, the sporting Then, after a while the doctors were the look in his opponent's stricken don't know the Latin name for it."

A BLOW on the crown of the head the look in his opponent's stricken don't know the Latin name for it."

A BLOW on the crown of the head the look in his opponent's stricken don't know the Latin name for it."

A BLOW on the crown of the head the look in his opponent's stricken don't know the Latin name for it."

A BLOW on the crown of the head the look in his opponent's stricken done something awful to his head. I don't know the Latin name for it."

He must have been out late. Where the must have been out late. Where had he been? He began to remember, had he been? He began to remember, the fight—the foul blow—his blind—dead right in doing it. If Spike Kenneny. And, in his smitty that the foul blow—his blind—dead right in doing it. If Spike Kenneny cast about for get a hard blow on the top of the means of refusing or in any event of head it would do something to the normal human head is fairly impervious to a smash from padded. There he sat while the referee was not ready to hazard his month-stone blind, for life. This next time old championship; least of all to so there'd be no cure. The minute his list. There is far more danger of counted him out. head is hit hard, on top, he'll be breaking the bones in the fist that

Berenely sure that he could hit the of the beaten man's handlers.

fight, wouldn't his wife want to go to ring-earnings, he bet half of this the other man and beg him on her sum, at approximately even money, knees not to fight him? Wouldn't on his winning of the fight. The rest, Merle says nobody tries to hit through commissioners, he placed at the other fellow on the top of the head in a fight. But I'm sure it might odds averaging three to one, that he would win it in five rounds or less happen, by accident. And then-oh. Seldom had a sporting proposition appromise me you won't fight him, Mr. peared safer.

On the night of the battle the men sisting a wild impluse to throw his shuffled out of their bathrobes and hat in the air and to cheer. "Kid, came to the center of the ring for the get you. Don't worry. I get you.

The gong rang; and the fight was

As soon as he could break away on. Spike at once took the aggressive. from Linda's effusive thanks Ken-nelly abandoned his promenade and Merle did not follow his usual tactics went at top speed to the nearest of meeting his man, foot to foot. In stead, he retreated before the onset Calling up his manager, he bade backing lightly away; dancing just that astonished functionary to sign out of reach; sparring at long range up with Brace, instantly, for the And, while he did this, he broke and fight; and to try to place a side bet other ring rule of his, by talking dur with the Renton manager for as big ing a bout.
a sum as he could wheedle the latter "Spike, my friend," he said, dis

into accepting. Also, he decreed that tinctly enough for the pursuing cham the matter of Spike's "championship pion to catch every syllable. "she share" of 66 per cent, of the gate. warned you it was only a fairy story. win, or lose, be waived; if Brace —And it was.—Anyone but a boob would know the top of a man's head The manager, fearing lest the has nothing to do with his eyes. noney-worshiping Kennelly had lost Hammer me there, all you like his mind, came hotfooting to Spike's Hammer me there till you break hotel for further information. But, in every bone in both your hands a half-hour more, he hurried even You're out for a killing, hey? Well the killing is due, all right. Only That night there was joy in the you're the killer, not the killer Renton flat. Brace came in late with | Watch!" news that the fight-papers were

As he spoke, he halted in his gas drawn up in record time and signed; retreat. Kennelly had just launce and that Kennelly's manager had not a fierce left lead for his jaw. Duckonly waived every moot point, but ing, Merle deliberately took the had agreed to every proviso suggest- mighty punch on the crown of his head. Its impact staggered him. But pendous side-bet on the rapturous that same impact sent shooting pains up Spike's arm and numbed his hand "I-I knew he'd do it," said Linda to the wrist. Merle danced away with a little shudder. "I knew it! grinning.
And yet, it didn't seem to me any "I keer "I keer

human could do such a thing. To ter, all the time," he announced. "Tr win a handful of money and a wretch- it again!"

ed fight, he'd actually blind a fellow-man for the life in cold blood. And THEN Merle Benton bagan to fight He assailed his foe, amidships want never losing the aggresive.

In the fourth round Merle ripped a punishing left-hander to the stomach. and was following it with a right to the heart; when, rattled and in agony, Spike dropped his guard to protect his "And, mind you!" spoke up Linda, meridian. In mid-air, Renton shifted carnestly. "I didn't tell him a lie. the right-hander's course, and brought meridian. In mid-air, Renton shifted

Down went Kennelly, under the "I know," said Merle. "That wasn't ing space badly. In the fifth round he was knocked down twice; both times taking the full count of nine As he came up for the sixth round Spike swayed drunkenly in his walk. From the crowd went up the world old merciless shout of blood-lust. "Finish him!" bawled the spectators

ward off the attack. Into his eyes had

Renton checked his own ferecious advance. He had caught and read

Merle Renton, welterweight cham pion of the east, bent down and boxers purposely oppose their head- picked up the sagging body. He car crowns to a punch; in the hope of ried it to Spike's corner and turned it over to the unloving ministrations

own chances of wealth. Scrapping into your stride again, let me know

Will Oysters Disappear From Menus?

T is the distinction and the good fortune of the United States to person in ten knows the value of our oyster industry. It is conducted in every seaport state, from Cape Cod to the Rio Grande and from Puget sound to San Francisco. Records of our Department of Commerce show that the oyster industry yields annually about 115,000 tons of food as prepared for consumption, an equivaindustry employs about 67,000 persons. The product, as it comes from the water is estimated by the bureau of fisheries at \$15,000,000 annually. unable to run away, is starved or These estimates were made a few years ago when oysters were plentiful to open its shell for food and oxygen. tural beds. The oyster industry is and prices lower. There are other The waste of the soils washed by the fisheries which possibly exceed it in rains and carried into the water the United States, and municipal govvalue, but in such cases much labor and material and a heavy investment of capital have been concerned in the fertilizing salts and fed on by the now exercised a close scrutiny of the manufacturing operation, to prepare oyster. If food be abundant and the sources of oysters brought to market the products for the consumers. For instance, in the canned salmon industry on the Pacific coast and the American fisheries for codfish on the Atlantic coast. But the most valuable cysters into fragments between their and economical fisheries are those, teeth, which are arranged like a cobfurnishing oysters. In Europe and blestone pavement, and suck the subother countries the oyster is and has

been a luxury. Oysters in infancy swim freely, though they are feeble, and before the oyster settles down it may wander far from its original locality. The embryo oyster, which forms after the egg is discharged into the water by I have been waiting to speak to you. the mother oyster, is so small as to eye. After a brief career of travel a burden of this increases a change of habit comes. The little oyster must attach itself to a support and settle down. This necessity brings one of "I-I don't want to be seen with the gravest crises of its life, and of water too fresh, the oysters get most of the bottoms over which it so fat that they burst their shells and sive glance up and down the street. has been swimming are muddy. Shells and gravel and similar bodies, if not submerged under the mud, present a surface sufficiently firm and clean to serve the little oyster's purpose. The more fortunate ones cement their henceforth remain where they fall unless displaced by some external

oysters.

attaches itself to an object and grad- production the following season ually becomes market size-between three and four years-its struggles few years ago was to use oyster tongs with its kind as man struggles with and sail boats. Now it is gasoline man for room to grow and enough and steamboats. There are gasoline to eat, and though the struggle is passive, it is relentless. The loser, heavy dredges which pull the rock all stifled through lack of room in which marine plants that are nourished by oyster beds are not crowded the or shipped from state to state. oyster becomes fat, lucious and tender.

been grown up. Starfish often appear in great schools and by the mus. cular force of their arms, equipped with rows of suckers, rend open the shells and absorb the oysters. The drill a little submarine snall uses is a rough tongue-like rasp and, boring a smooth round hole through the helpless oyster shell, it inserts its Oysters in creeks, rivers or coves

A school of drumfish may grind

weather comes and makes this body die. Where oysters have lived and died for years and shells have accumu-lated on this bed, natural rock has formed and there is a firm surface Around this oyster bed of natural rock there is a very soft, deep, muddy

ottom. Dredges are dragged across

makes the water brackish, as a usual

thing are fat, but if a lot of rainy

attached fall on unsuitable surfaces comes in contact with is taken up and perish. This is one reason why this dredge is pulled to the surface it is necessary for the female cyster and thrown on the deck of the hoat. The cysters are culled from the shells kind shall not disappear from the wa- and the shells are thrown overboard ters. Practically any hard-surface again. If these shells fall on the objects falling into the water, if they de not become engulfed in the following spring, and if the shellmud, become coated with a growth of are thrown on the edge of the rock and submerged in the mud, they are During the time the infant oyster gone forever as far as the use for

The method of catching oysters a winders on these boats, with large. to pieces. The inventions have something to do with decreasing our na decreasing 50 per cent each year in visability of inspection, and there is now exercised a close scrutiny of the

Metal Paper.

IT is reported that lithographers here and abroad have for some time been using plated paper instead of thin metal sheets, preferring the former as the paper body gives a former as the paper soft cushioning effect which cannot be obtained with the solid metal. For this purpose the metal is electroplated on the surface of the paper, which has first been coated with a layer of graphite to give it a conducting surface. The principle thus emneipless oyster shell, it inserts its ployed is old, but the difficulty has snout and licks up the meat. Oysters will not live in fresh water. plating bath would soak into the paper Oysters in creeks, rivers, or coves where fresh water flows in and and would loosen the metal film from the state brackish as a benefit to even while this was being dethat by first coating the paper with against the direct action of the quid, so that the film of metal will

The deepest mine in the world is at Morro Velho, Brazil. It has reached a vertical depth of 6,426 feet below the surface of the earth. This great this rock to catch oysters and shells, depth is attained not by one shaft. force. Those that do not become so and practically everything the dredge but by a soites of five

cling firmly to it.



UNDER THE DOCTOR'S ORDERS, THE RECENT CHAMPION HAD BEEN PACKED OFF TO A SANITARIUM.

ing hostelfy. Spike proceeded artfully "Leave him alone" gobbled the

right. And, when it's over we'll start patronizingly. But the woman's first that hatel. There's a barrel of money in the right sort of hotel, back home. And we're going to run the right sort. How long do you suppose the whole thing will take, Mr. Brace? The other. very fast and with evident nervous-Not the hotel."

THE sporting pages of the various papers, next day, announced that It's terribly important. Can I walk a be just visible to the unaided human Merle Renton's eyes had been badly little way with you?" injured in the fight with Kennelly; Her agitation and the stark plead- tiny shell begins to form, and as the and that, under the doctor's orders, ing effect on Spike's usually too-the recent ex-welterweight champion ready tongue. Nodding confusedly. had been packed off to a sanitarium;

Kennelly read the reports; and he

veling in the glory and publicity and lenged you. Please-I-I'm begfull pockets that go with a new-won ging you-please-don't accept. Don't championship. Everything in life seemed, for the moment, either en- There must be plenty of other men shells to such objects and grow and thralling or amusing. Chancing to meet Brace in a sport-

few hurried sentences changed his smirk of gratification to a scowl of bewilderment. "Mr. Kennelly," she said, speaking

ness. "You don't know me. I am Linda Renton, Merle Renton's wife. complete blindness had set in, ing in her upraised face had a silenc-

he let her fall into step beside him. you," said Linds, with an apprehensmiled broadly. To him it seemed a "so I'll be as quick as I can. Mr. for you to fight. Leave my husband alone. Oh, please!"